development of berth, deepening of channels, equipments upgradation and improvement in rail and road connectivity and other associated projects have been identified to be taken up for implementation by 2011 -12. Out of the above, 28 projects involving an estimated investment of Rs. 2403 crores pertain to Paradip port. These include deepening of the ports channel to receive largo size ships, development of berths for handling iron ore and coal, and projects for enhancing road and rail linkage between the port, mines and the upcoming industrial units.

Progress of NHDP

1734. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:
SHRIMATl SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Inter-Ministerial Group has recommended that Government should create expertise in public sector participation, private partnership projects to ensure smooth progress of the National Highways Development Programme;

(b) whether this report has been submitted to the PM to shape the restructuring plan for NHs;

(c) whether the report also points out that Board Members should be made to deal with the policy issues related to PPP projects; and

(d) if so, whether the PM has given go-ahead signals to these projects and how many recommendations of the report have been accepted and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Inter-Ministerial Committee has finalized the report on restructuring of National Highways Authority of India (NHAI). The report is under consideration of the Government. The recommendations of the committee will be implemented after the approval of the Government.